

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE
ON THE
LUNATIC ASYLUM,

INCLUDING
THE REPORTS OF THE
REGENTS, SUPERINTENDENT, AND PHYSICIAN,

BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATURE.

1845.

COLUMBIA:
A. G. SUMMER, STATE PRINTER.

1846.

REPORT
OF THE COMMITTEE
ON THE
LUNATIC ASYLUM.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DEC. 15, 1845.

The Committee on the Lunatic Asylum, to whom was referred the Report of the Regents of that Institution, Report :

That they have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Institution, from 5th November, eighteen hundred and forty-four, to the same period eighteen hundred and forty-five, and find them correct. That there was a balance in hand at the commencement of the year, of one thousand six hundred and thirty-eight dollars 33 cents, and that the income of the Institution received from patients, since that period, amounted to eleven thousand seven hundred and seventy-three dollars 17 cents, and the disbursements to eleven thousand six hundred and fifty-four dollars 89 cents, leaving a balance of seventeen hundred and fifty-six dollars 61 cents. It will thus be seen that this valuable Institution, under its present management, has supported itself without calling on the General Assembly for aid.

At the commencement of the year, there was under treatment, seventy-two patients, since then, received twenty-three, making in all ninety-five, of which, cured thirteen, discharged eleven, two remaining by request, died six, removed five, leaving now in the house seventy-three, forty-three of whom are male patients, and thirty females, forty-nine paupers and twenty-four pay patients.

Your Committee find the building in good condition, with comfortable apartments, properly provided with bedding and clothing, and they take pleasure in affording their testimony to the uniform, kind and humane treatment of the Superintendent, Dr. Parker.

At the request of the Regents, the Legislature at its last Session, permitted Religious exercises to be carried on and conducted in the Institution, and it will be seen by reference to the report of the Physician, that the highest expectation has been realised by the labors of the Chaplain Rev. Mr. HORT. That they regularly attend Religious Worship, are orderly in their behaviour,

and seem to take much interest in these exercises, and that even the most violent have been sensible to Religious instruction.

Your Committee recommend the continuance of the service, feeling satisfied that some benefit has resulted to these unfortunate Inmates, who, though their reason may be shattered, have evidenced veneration for Religious truths.

Resolved, That the do House agree to the Report. *Ordered*, That it be sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By order,

T. W. GLOVER, C. H. R.

IN THE SENATE, DEC. 15, 1845.

Resolved, That the Senate do concur in the Report. *Ordered*, That it be returned to the House of Representatives.

By order,

W. E. MARTIN, C. S.

REGENT'S REPORT.

THE HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT, AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF S. C.

Gentlemen—Permit me to refer you to the within Reports of the Physician and Superintendent, for such information, relative to the Lunatic Asylum, as you may desire.

The Regents are happy to Report the Institution as in a prosperous condition, under the able and humane management of our Superintendent, Dr. Parker, and the officer sunder him—much benefit is afforded the unfortunate inmates of the house.

Respectfully,

ANDREW WALLACE, *President*,
Board of Regents.

TO THE REGENCY OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM OF S. C.

Gentlemen—The Physician's Report embracing all that is necessary, relative to the health and condition of our patients, I would only observe, that their general deportment gives additional testimony to the benefit resulting from mild treatment, while a preference that is given by many to remain, rather than return home, should assure all who are interested in this Institution, that nothing has been wanting to contribute to their health, or comfort.

I heartily concur with Dr. TREZEVANT, in his high appreciation of the actual benefit resulting from the labors of our Chaplain, Rev'd. E. B. Hort. The duties of his office have been discharged with great fidelity and to the very best advantage.

Our Matron, Miss WRIGHT, is faithful and judicious in the discharge of her duties. The Keepers are all just such as we could desire--mild, prompt and efficient.

On the 5th November, 1844, there were	.	.	.	.	.	.	72
Patients under treatment.							
Received during 12 months,	.	.	.	.	.	.	23
							<hr/> 95
Cured 13, and discharged	.	.	.	.	.	.	11
(two remaining by request,)							
Died 6, removed 5,	.	.	.	.	.	.	11
							<hr/> 22
Leaving now in the house,	.	.	.	.	.	.	73

Forty three of whom are Male and thirty Females; forty-nine Paupers and twenty-four Pay Patients.

Respectfully submitted, by your ob't. serv't.,

J. W. PARKER, *Superintendent.*

COLUMBIA, Nov. 5th, 1845.

THE RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM, FROM 5TH
Nov., 1844, TO THE SAME PERIOD 1845, ARE AS FOLLOWS :

1844.				
Nov. 5,	Amount balance in Bank.....	\$ 1,638	33	
1845.				
Nov. 5,	“ received on account Patients. 11,773	17	\$13,411	50
DISBURSED.				
1844.				
Dec'r. 10,	Amount paid for supplies.....	396	83	
1845.				
Jan'ry. 2,	“ “ J. Patton.....	81	28	
“ 7,	“ “ Supplies, Salaries &c.....	2,700	75	
“ 28,	“ “ for Pork.....	147	92	
Feb'ry. 7,	“ “ supplies, &c.,.....	971	90	
“ 8,	“ “ Salaries.....	287		
“ 17,	“ “ McName.....	24	70	
“ 19,	“ “ Harkins.....	100		
March 11,	“ “ supplies.....	636	67	
April 9,	“ “ supplies, &c.....	587	73	
May 6,	“ “ supplies and Salaries.....	951	50	
June 9,	“ “ supplies and Salaries.....	543	50	
July 2,	“ “ J. W. Parker.....	375		
“ 7,	“ “ supplies.....	737	26	
“ “	“ “ refunded Watkins.....	193	05	
Aug. 4,	“ “ supplies, &c.....	367		
“ 12,	“ “ McPherson.....	50		
“ “	“ “ Miss Magee.....	200		
“ “	“ “ John Harkins.....	50		
“ “	“ “ refunded Ludwick.....	50	26	
Sept. 8,	“ “ supplies.....	594	91	
Oct. 17,	“ “ supplies.....	613	96	
Nov. 3,	“ “ supplies and Salaries.....	951	67	
“ “	“ “ Patients expenses home....	30		
“ 4,	“ “ on hand, uncurrent.....	12		11,654 89
“ 5,	Balance on hand.....	Drs.	\$1,756	61

J. W. PARKER, Sec'y. & Tres'r.,
LUNATIC ASYLUM, S. C.

I have examined the foregoing accounts of the receipts and disbursements at the Lunatic Asylum, by comparison with the monthly examination of the Ex-Regent, and find it correct.

I fully concur in the above. JOSIAH E. SMITH, } Committee.
W. H. ELLETT, }

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

TO THE REGENTS OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM :

Gentlemen—This is the season for our Annual Report, and it becomes my duty to give a summary of the general health and condition of the inmates of the Institution, and the effect produced on their mental disease, by the curative means adopted for their relief.

It is gratifying to me to state, that the general health of the Patients has been good, that we have been measurably free from the prevailing colds and dysenteries that were common in the town, and that those who did suffer, all got well ; we had but one severe case of Typhus fever,—Mr. ———, died of this disease. He was addicted to onanism, and the powers of his constitution were much enfeebled by that most destructive practice. Much of our health is attributable to the care observed in keeping the persons and clothing of the Patients perfectly clean; to the full ventilation of the rooms, and to the strict cleanliness of the house and yards. Though, on examining the number of deaths, you will find more reported than the ordinary average, yet you will also find, all but one were of that character that neither human foresight nor human skill could avert. Consumption, apoplexy and epilepsy, form the catalogue of our causalities, and they have long ranked among those diseases which medical skill may mitigate, but cannot cure. When once they invade the system, the constitution certainly sinks under their slow, steady, but certainly progressive and destructive influence.

I have been very much pleased with the kindness and attention paid to the patients by the Rev. Mr. Hort. They have received much consolation from his visits, and his constant exertions to improve their condition, has aided me very much ; it has been especially beneficial among many of my violent females. They are, generally speaking, sensible to Religious instruction, and take a deep interest in every thing connected with their Creator, and though their intellects may be shattered, there is still an abiding place for Religious veneration, and the Minister is usually greeted with pleasure as the representative of him who died for their salvation.

The experiment has now been tried and I have been gratified with the result, and I trust that nothing will occur to sever the bond that binds our present Pastor to the people. He has identified himself with their interests, but has taken no advantage of his position to make a proselyte; being perfectly aware that in gaining a convert, he may loose his influence with the many, and disturb the peace and quiet of a mind about to be re-established. On the whole, I think I may say, we have had through his assistance, and the firm, quiet and orderly habits of our present Matron, more peace and quiet in the house than we have ever had before, and I should feel the loss of Mr. Hort, as a

serious evil, and the abstraction of one of our best means for rendering them comfortable and happy.

Since the 5th November, 1844, there have been received into the House twenty-three Patients..... 23

Dismissed as cured..... 13

Removed by friends, improved..... 5

And six have died..... 6

24

Of this number ——— died of Typhus fever, ——— from Epilepsy, ——— from Apoplexy, Miss ——— from Consumption, and ——— had never been sick until he was found dead,—it is probable he died of Apoplexy.

On the 5th of November, 1844, there were in the House..... 72

Received since that time..... 23

95

Cured.....13

Removed..... 5

Died..... 6

24

Now under treatment..... 71

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. TREZEVANT, *Physician, L. A.*

REPORT
OF THE
REGENTS OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM,
TO THE
LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

NOVEMBER, 1846.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
PRINTED BY A. S. JOHNSTON,
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1846.

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TO THE HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT AND SENATE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA.

Gentlemen :

Permit me to refer you to the within Reports of the Physician and Superintendent, and also the statement of receipts and expenditures for the past year, for such information relative to the Lunatic Asylum, as you may desire.

The Regents are happy to report the Institution as in a prosperous condition, under the able and humane management of Dr. Trezevant, our Physician, and Dr. Parker, our Superintendent, aided by the salutary influence of our Chaplin, Rev. Mr. Hort.

Respectfully,

A. WALLACE,
President Board Regents.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 1st, 1846.

TO THE REGENTS OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Gentlemen :

We have cause to be thankful to the Bestower of all blessings for the uniform good health enjoyed by our patients during the last year.

We have had but few cases of severe illness, and no deaths but from Epilepsy. The three who died, suffered under that distressing disease, and finally sunk under the increased violence of the attacks.

Langdale has been gradually wasting under marasmus, and I have had much trouble and difficulty to sustain his powers thus far. He is one of those who will not speak, and we can derive no information from him. He bears his sickness without repining, and it is only by close watching that we can discover when he suffers more than usual from his disease. Under these circumstances, it is difficult to manage his disorder.

Our patients are now very healthy—they have passed through the last year with but little trouble or inconvenience to them-

selves, or the officers of the institution ; and we find that the more mild and gentle the means adopted to govern them, the more easily we can control their erratic habits. Firmness is absolutely necessary. That, and never deviating from the truth in my intercourse with them, enables me to get along with but little difficulty. It is astonishing how long they will recollect any thing said to them by the Officers of the institution, and with what promptitude they will bring out any apparent contradiction, and with what ingenuity they will use it to promote their own views. It is all important, therefore, that the system of deception should never be used, and that in your intercourse with them, no promises should be made or implied, that can, in any wise, lead them to believe that a different course is to be adopted with them, or their term of confinement likely to be shortened. Several times I have had brought up to me that I kept them in durance, when the Regents thought them well and were willing that they should be dismissed to their homes and friends. A casual expression of that kind often causes me much trouble, and I bring it to your notice now, because it has, of late, been the subject of discussion between some of the patients and myself.

Our people are much pleased with religious worship. It is to them a source of real comfort, productive of happiness and advantage. Their minister and themselves get on remarkably well. His kindness and attention still continue to elicit their gratitude and respect, and a little incident that occurred during the summer, will tend to show the feelings which they entertain of the necessity of paying their homage to the Deity. Their pastor was indisposed one Sunday, and they heard nothing of it until they had assembled. The proposition was made, as he was not able to preach for them, that one of their own number should supply his place, and they solicited Thomason, who is in the habit of speaking on religion, to officiate. He assumed the office, took up the Bible, read his chapter, and commented on it verse by verse, as he went along. When he had finished, they all joined in singing to the praise of God, and the service was closed without any unpleasant occurrence. This little instance tends to show that they not only appreciate the object of the service, but that they felt it a duty and esteemed it a gratification to listen to the word of God even when given to them from one of their fellow-sufferers. Under such feelings, I have no hesitation in saying that the system of religious worship ought to be sustained, and I trust

that each year will enable them to reap still greater benefit from participating in its tranquilizing influence, and add greatly to their mental improvement.

Respectfully,

D. H. TREZEVANT,
Physician Lunatic Asylum.

November 5th, 1846.

TO THE REGENCY OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Gentlemen :

The fiscal year of our institution having just closed, the Superintendent presents his 10th Annual Report, and is pleased to acknowledge, with gratitude, another year characterised by exemption from accident or disease.

The large proportion of cures to the number admitted, has been particularly gratifying. A majority of those received were pay patients, and many of them from the higher walks of life, which is an evidence of increased confidence among the more intelligent part of the community.

The uniform quiet and orderly conduct of our patients, which you have observed during your weekly visits, the contentment, and apparent happiness of a large majority, has doubtless been regarded by your Board as an evidence that due regard is paid to their comfort by your officers.

Our Chaplain continues diligently and faithfully to discharge his duties, and enjoys the satisfaction of preaching to as orderly a congregation as may be found in Christendom.

As our resources admit, improvements are being made, which tend to the comfort and benefit of our patients.

On the 5th November, 1845, there were under

treatment,	73
Received to same period, 1846,	17

Total,	90
--------	----

During the year there have been cured, 12

Removed, 5

Died, 3-----20----70

Now under treatment, seventy patients, forty-five of whom are

paupers and twenty-five pay patients—forty-one males and twenty-nine females.

Respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. W. PARKER.

The Receipts and Disbursements of the Lunatic Asylum, from 5th November, 1845 to same period 1846, are as follows.

1845			
Nov. 5	To amount in Bank,-----	1,756	61
1846			
Nov. 5	" amount received and deposited,-----	9,922	58—11,679 19
1845	DISBURSED.		
Dec. 18	By amount for supplies and salaries,-----	720	63
'846			
Jan. 7	" " " do. and negro hire,-----	1,886	81
Feb. 4	" " " J. W. Parker's salary,-----	375	00
" 15	" " " supplies, &c.,-----	805	34
" "	" " " Dr. Trezevant,-----	710	00
" "	" " " negro hire,-----	72	00
M'h 16	" " " supplies, &c.,-----	758	83
April 2	" " " J. W. Parker's salary,-----	375	00
" 24	" " " supplies, &c.,-----	743	50
June 8	" " " do. and salaries,-----	1,159	86
July 7	" " " do. " "-----	990	32
Aug. 11	" " " do. " "-----	625	00
Sep. 14	" " " do. " "-----	459	65
Oct. 5	" " " J. W. Parker's "-----	375	00
" 9	" " " supplies, &c.,-----	428	00—10,484 94
Nov. 5	Balance on hand,-----	\$ 1194	25

J. W. PARKER, Secretary and Treasurer.

We have examined the vouchers of the above account, and find them correct:

J. FISHER, } Committee of
R. H. GOODWYN, } Examination.

REPORT.

*To the Honorable the Senate, and
House of Representatives :*

GENTLEMEN—

Permit me to refer you to the annexed Reports, for full information relative to the condition of the Lunatic Asylum.

The Regents are happy to bear testimony to its prosperous condition. Under the able and humane management of our Superintendent, Dr. PARKER, and the other Officers, much benefit and comfort is afforded the afflicted inmates of the house.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. WALLACE,
President Board Regents.

Columbia, S. C. Nov. 30, 1847.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS.

Your Committee appointed to inquire into the state of occupation of our patients, and to propose any improvements, which in their opinion, may be necessary, respectfully report

Constant and judicious occupation does not only strengthen the mind of the sane, but it is now also universally acknowledged to be the most effective means of allaying the irregular workings of deranged intellects. As want of occupation leads the human mind to imbecility, which may become actual insanity, so does a well selected succession of varying employment, and judicious amusement form a substantive element, in the cure of diseased minds. There is no difference of opinion on this subject. The only questions can be, which are the best means of employment in an asylum, for the insane? Have we sufficiently provided for this subject? What are the means at our disposal to do so, should it be found that the second of these questions must be answered in the negative? And what methods ought we to employ in order to put successfully into practice, the views and measures which your board may ultimately deem proper to adopt.

As to the answer to the first question, namely : Which are the best modes

of employment in an asylum for the insane? It is obvious, that the different occupations and employments must, in a great measure, vary, according to climate and the daily weather, to the social condition occupied by the patients before their entrance into the hospital, the trade they may have pursued, the peculiar character of the individual disease, and upon the physician's advice.

We mean to propose to you a measure which is intended to provide for the difficulties which may arise out of these constantly varying circumstances.

The chairman of your committee, found, on a recent visit to the insane hospital at Philadelphia, which is deservedly considered one of the very best of its kind, in this, and, indeed, in any country, that the chief occupations and amusements of the patients, consist in the following :

Foremost stands the employment in the open air, farming, gardening, fishing, and the like, and next the *carriage*. One or two carriages are in constant use in that asylum. Proper keepers take from eight to nine, at the time, either to drive about in the country, or to visit more or less distant places of instruction, or of general interest, such as the exhibition of fine arts, ship yards, &c. The chairman of your committee was told, that on no account, would the estimable and distinguished superintendent, Dr. KIRKBRIGHT, forego the benefit of the carriage, which he finds to possess a sensitive power no less for the mind than for the body.

Next in importance may perhaps be mentioned *instruction*, not only by books, engravings and models, but also by lectures. The Philadelphia Asylum has a lecture room with appropriate apparatus, and several lectures are delivered every week, especially in winter. The patients take the deepest interest in them, and always anticipate much pleasure. Insane persons are in this particular, as in many others, like children; they delight, above all, in natural history and astronomy, if accompanied by specimens, illustrating drawings and models. Music is likewise provided for. There are several pianos; but it does not appear that many patients, however perfect they may be in the art, are willing regularly to instruct fellow patients in it. Patient perseverance is only met with in insane persons by way of rare exception, and then even, probably always, not as a laudable disposition, but as an effect or constituent part of their insanity itself.

A great variety of periodicals, newspapers and literary papers are taken. Globes can be used by every patient who desires it, and whose state of insanity admits of entrusting him with costly objects of this kind.

There is also a green-house, which occupies and entertains many patients; wild quadrupeds, and rare birds in cages serve for the same purpose.

A circular railway is much resorted to.

Among the amusements which constantly serve to divert the minds of the patients must be mentioned, in a very prominent place,—

THE BOWLING ALLEY,
THE BILLIARD TABLE AND BAGATELLE,
CHESS, BACKGAMMON, DRAUGHTS AND CARDS,

especially whist, of which many insane patients are very fond.

A magic lantern of a superior kind, serves to combine instruction and amusement; for, among others, astronomical slides are used. The lantern was mentioned as a very important item of occupation for the insane.

Among the regular in-door employments, was pointed out the carpenter's shop as the most important.

Sometimes patients are permitted to go out shooting

Exhibitions of any thing interesting or curious, are always seized upon to divert or reward the calmer class of patients, and it is needless for us to mention to you, that insane persons furnish the same phenomenon—doing honor to the nature of man—which has been long observed with those who may be called morally insane, the criminals in penitentiaries—we mean, that both are far more ready to correspond to the confidence reposed in them, or to the appeals made to their honor, than persons unacquainted with either class of patients would suppose.

Visits extended to other asylums, for instance to the excellent ones at Bloomingdale, and Charlestown, near Boston, showed that besides horticulture and husbandry—that soothing occupation which first of all leads man out of the state of barbarism into that of civilization, and is resorted to at the evenings of our lives, when we long to rest from the agitations of the world, and which also is best calculated to calm the disordered intellect of our afflicted fellow beings—that, besides these, the following employments are considered the most important and indispensable :

THE CARRIAGE,
THE CARPENTER'S SHOP,
LECTURES,
BOWLING ALLEY,
BILLIARDS,
BACKGAMMON and other games.

With regard to the second question, that is, have we sufficiently provided for the subject? the answer is simple. Our resident physician has carefully tried to occupy as many patients as were willing, in gardening, during the milder hours of the day, and has constantly sent the patients on more or less distant walks. But he has few other means of occupying them. As to instruction, we have a chaplain, and he endeavors, worthily and assiduously, to perform his mission. But he, too, can do but little under existing circumstances. All the

difficulties which would obstruct the labors of a chaplain in the asylums of every country, are increased in ours by the great variety of sects. The insane baptist or catholic goes with reluctance to the worship which is conducted by a presbyterian or Lutheran. That love of dispute which, in common with all vanity, prevails with a great majority of insane persons, becomes, with our patients, easily and naturally, religious disputatiousness.

We come, then, to the third and fourth questions. We propose to answer them in common.

It seems to your committee that the occupation of our patients ought to be *constant* and *varying*, and that it is of much importance that, although nearly all occupations must remain in a very high degree voluntary, they must by no means be all day long at the option of the patients. A bowling alley open to every one during the whole day, would soon be abandoned by every one, and fall into total disuse. Do we not daily observe the same with regard to the toys of our children?

To ensure, then, *constant* and *varying* occupation, your committee believe it necessary that our patients be divided into squads, which of course may be changed according to the direction of the physician, and that a chief keeper be appointed, who, under the direction of the resident physician, and the standing committee, of which we shall treat presently, shall have authority over the other keepers, and whose particular care it shall be to see the patients as much employed as they will permit, and as a judicious variety of employment and amusement can to incite them to be. This chief keeper ought to have a larger salary than the rest, to insure his authority over them.

Your committee would advise the buying of a carriage and horses for the use of the patients. It is believed that the horses, although they be used for the inmates of our institution, may be made to produce the whole, or a considerable part of their own support. But whether this be so or not, we strongly advise the carriage for the use of the patients.

We believe it indispensable to erect some work-shops, especially joiners' and turning shops, and we think that chess boards, a billiard table, and maps and books, ought to be bought. But we would state that before any thing of this kind be done, we believe it necessary to appoint a chief keeper, without whom every thing would soon be ruined.

We farther suggest that lectures be delivered to our patients. We believe that charitable and able persons will be found willing to let the insane occasionally have the benefit of their instruction; but we must rely, in this particular, chiefly upon the resident physician and the chaplain. If these gentlemen were to deliver one lecture a week upon some subject that may be attractive to the patients, it would be of material benefit. The resident physician at Bloomingdale possesses a large number of maps and astronomical representations,

strongly painted upon canvass by himself, with the aid of some patients, and of other illustrative aids for the lectures which he delivers to his patients. In that asylum there are also weekly soirees of patients of both sexes, in the presence of the physician and other sane persons. The doctor declared that they had a very salutary effect, and that nothing had ever happened of a character to make him regret them.

Your committee would suggest the propriety of making a trial of mutual instruction among the insane. We have always educated persons of a mind sufficiently sane to be capable of instructing others. The attempt may not be successful, but if successful, the advantage would be incalculable; we ought to make, then, a trial. All trial instructs, whichever way it may turn out. They would advise, moreover, to furnish the chaplain with proper books, so that he may be able to direct the reading, and otherwise instruct the patients with greater facility. Your committee confess that they are unable to lay out a plan in all its details, as necessity may require; nor do they believe that the united judgment of your board will be able to provide for all the particulars, because they depend upon varying circumstances. Your committee suggest, therefore, the expediency of appointing a standing committee on occupation. Such a standing committee would always be ready to advise with the physicians, as well as with the keepers; it would represent you in the intervening time between your meetings, report to you, and, in general, be ready to supply the details which the putting into execution of the general outlines, that may be adopted by you, will require. All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRANCIS LIEBER,

Chairman.

Columbia, S. C., 16th Nov., 1847.

To the Regents of the Lunatic Asylum :

GENTLEMEN—

It is now the period of the year when it becomes necessary, that I should give you some details of the state of our institution, and of such plans as I may deem advisable, to be adopted by you, for carrying into effect my former advice and your resolutions. I have become more and more satisfied, the longer I am in connexion with the institution, of the greater necessity for the close attention to the moral government of our patients, and the less necessity for the medical. I do not mean by this that medicine is not required, or that they are alone to be managed without its aid, but, that with patients generally, and espe-

cially such as come under our care, few are capable of bearing its action, and very few are brought into this institution, at the time when it would be most needed. At the commencement of the disease, most of them have been subjected, to the care of the Physician at home, and they reach us, after the first and most important stage has subsided, and we have the melancholy office assigned us, of acting as nurses to the sick bodies, or disordered fancies. Generally speaking, all excitement has passed away, and for one accompanied with high action, we have ten who are bordering on imbecility. This renders our task much more difficult, and lessens the chance of success to our curative efforts. We not only have insanity to combat, but we have it after it has had full possession of the man, and has undermined the powers of the brain, and broken up the energies of the constitution. We have it after the whole moral being has been debased by neglect, and injudicious treatment, and the physical, prostrated from the want of proper attention to the necessities of the case. Whether we ever change these things is a doubt with me. It arises from a morbid sensibility on the part of the friends, and a disinclination which most persons feel, to place a member of their family under the control of strangers. This is but a weak reason to act on, when the happiness of a large family depends on the restoration of one of its members to health—and when every day passed in the effort to restore, takes away measurably from the chance of success. It is painful to witness the effect of misguided kindness and misdirected energies. Can we remedy this state of things, by any action on our part? I fear, for some years, but imperfectly, yet it is worth the trial, and by patient perseverance, and constant endeavors, to point out to the community the errors into which they have fallen, much may be effected, and I hope that time will point out to those whose families have been invaded by that most afflictive of maladies, that they will subserve the interest of their friends, far more by sending them to a well regulated Asylum—for in no place can they be made as comfortable or happy. Three things are to be strictly attended to in the management of the insane. The utmost cleanliness in person and dress—constant and varied employment, and free exposure to the open air.

Granting that these are absolutely requisite for their comfort and restoration, let me ask, if it is possible in any private house, to give it to them? Not even the first can be properly attended to, under the best of circumstances, and in most cases it is totally impracticable. And the two others are absolutely impossible; and I will venture to say, that without them, the chances of cure are reduced to a mere possibility. In what manner can a Lunatic be exercised in any private house or occupied at home? Who is to govern the man, who has heretofore ruled and controled the establishment? Who is to impose labor on him who has presided over all, and assigned the tasks to each? It is not practicable, but granting that this could be done, in the seclusion of the homestead,

is society so constituted, that it would be permitted? Would the community tolerate an uncontrolled mad-man to be in their vicinity? To stroll about the streets? Would it be safe to the inhabitants? Would it be decorous? All know that even among the mildest and most quiet of the Insane, that there are moments of sudden out-break, when rage and fury possess them, and all the prevented energies of their nature are concentrated on the one single wish, to kill, when destruction marks their every movement, and their efforts are of the most violent and furious character. That under those impulses they will use the utmost ingenuity to accomplish their purpose, and that a single unguarded moment will enable them to accomplish their object. It is fresh in the memory of you all, how Mrs. ——— watched her opportunity, and when she had deceived her husband, by the apparent improvement of her mind, and he left the house but for a moment, that, that moment was embraced, and when he returned, he found the wife of his bosom the murderer of his infant. One such fact as that, is worth a volume of reasoning, and the records of every Asylum will point out those of a similar character. That lady was brought to the Asylum after that dreadful catastrophe, and in the course of about four months, was perfectly restored, and returned to her friends; but judge from your own, what must be her feelings, when she recurs to that period of maddening excitement. And what must the husband feel, when he thinks that a little delay had fixed that torturing thorn forever in her agonised bosom. It would be wrong for a community to tolerate the insane in their streets, or their houses. For the most quiet are often the most dangerous, being carelessly watched, no one anticipating danger from their former harmless habits. If then society will not permit freedom of action in the open air, and it is necessary that their time should be engaged and their bodily powers fully exercised, is it not cruelty to keep them from the only place, where it is practicable, and where every arrangement is made, with the especial object of effecting it, and where such assistance is given, as allows them every liberty compatible with their situation, disease, and wants. Whenever a patient is kept at home, he is under the strictest and severest restraint—manicled, tied to the bed-post, his doors and windows closed and barricaded, the very light and air of Heaven excluded. He enjoys nothing—his whole existence is spent in one continual struggle against his oppressors—his troubles are aggravated in a ten-fold degree, by the knowledge, that all this restraint is by the order of those most dear to him; and often his own servant is placed over, to watch, to control, to manage his master. You can easily imagine the feelings of a man, with sensibilities morbidly acute, and judgment so far gone as not to be able to compare facts, and reason on the propriety of the course adopted—to find himself opposed by his wife and children, his nearest and dearest friends assisting in his coercion, and watched and controlled by his own slaves. It is sufficient to drive him to madness, and make him resist

(even to the destruction of those around him) all those attacks upon his liberty and dignity of manhood. This desperate strife is constantly going on, and it requires no gift of prophecy to say what must be the result. Let the community reflect for a moment, and they will be satisfied that home is no place for the deranged—that an Asylum is the only refuge for one who has been deprived of the power of judging for himself, and no longer capable of self-management. Comfort and privacy can only be obtained in institutions of this kind. It is only under the benevolent roof, that he can have a fair and full chance of regaining his health. I could illustrate the propriety of the home discipline, by numberless cases that have been, and now are, under our care; but I need only direct your attention to that of ———, to show you the dreadful effects of seclusion and restraint, most injudiciously adopted by his friends. When he was an inmate of this institution, some years ago, he was characterized by great activity, both of body and mind, and he was daily and hourly engaged in plans for effecting his escape. His schemes were well laid, and with the most persevering industry carried into effect. No lock could be put upon his door, that he did not open, and at last, when bars and bolts excluded him from a chance of escape by the door, he, with a nail, picked a hole in an eighteen-inch wall and nearly effected his liberty. Look at him now, and contrast the bold schemer and industrious work-man with the miserable being who crawls about your yard, scarcely able to support his weight on his feeble limbs—feeble not from wasting of disease, but want of motion, and whose only thoughts and only wants are for, the gratification of his taste for tobacco. Tobacco is his only cry—tobacco is the only answer you will get to any question proposed. And how has this dreadful state of things been brought about? By the injudicious confinement of the man to prevent his escape from their vigilance—a terrible vigilance, that has ended in brutalizing the unfortunate wretch, and divesting him of all the attributes of man.

It has been very difficult for us to organize this institution in the manner we would wish, so as to make it accomplish all the good it is capable of effecting and all the advantages anticipated by its benevolent founders. Much has been done, and much remains to be done, which I flatter myself will be accomplished: but it will be the work of time, and the gradual enlightening of the minds of the community, and satisfying the Commissioners of the poor of the actual necessity of sending early their insane to the Asylum, and by proving to them by incontrovertible facts, that it is cheaper to do so, and far less expensive in the end, to the district over which they preside. Retrenchment has been the curse of the poor, and especially of the insane. I have nothing to do with it politically, but it comes before me so frequently in the acts of some of the Commissioners, daily and hourly, that I cannot but feel that it is a wonderful agent of mischief, even in that most humble portion of our State government. The law leaves it

in a measure optional with the Commissioners, and though imperative in its phraseology, yet it gives a discretionary power, and for fear of increasing the poor rates, many will, with the utmost purity of heart, and genuine kindness of feeling, save the parish, but at the fearful sacrifice of the maniac. They will retain him at the poor house, where he can be kept for \$50 per annum, and perhaps eventually send him to the Asylum, as it has been done, with the skin literally roasted from his limbs by the fire, for the want of proper attention.—Some wretched old erone, half crazed herself, or unable to move about, the daretaker of their clarity, is installed as the keeper of the insane, and the effect of their injudicious parsimony is very speedily made obvious, by the wanderings of the maniac, the trouble he occasions in the neighborhood, or the injuries inflicted on him, by those who, ignorant of his misfortune, deem him an impudent and troublesome vagrant. The law should be positive. Whenever the mind is warped, and the reason gone, no circumstances should be considered as valid in preventing his being placed in the institution erected by the State for his especial benefit—there should be his location, and it should be the pride of every resident of the district, to see that the wretched maniac was sent to the place appropriated for his comfort and happiness.

I have said that there are three essential points necessary to be attended to in the care of the insane, and upon the use of these depends the principal advantages which we now have in effecting their cure. These are cleanliness, free air, and occupation. It affords me great pleasure to say that our patients are all kept in good order; their persons and clothing are always clean and strictly attended to, and on the female side there is no change desirable; the keepers are particular in furnishing them with work, and they have the means of constant employment in industrious pursuits. The making and mending of the clothes, spinning, carding, (and I might say weaving,) keep very many of them engaged; and those who are so kept, are the most happy and obedient. But needle-work is too sedentary; we want something more than the dull routine of needle and thread. Something to divert the mind, to occupy the attention, to make them think, to amuse, to cheer up the spirits, is required. This is to be accomplished by amusement out of doors; not the mere walking out which they now do, for that, without object, becomes tiresome, but by employment in the garden, by sports, gathering together of an evening, reading, talking, singing and dancing. The swing, skipping rope, battle-door, ought to be introduced. They have become children a second time, and children's sports should be given them. Why should they not play at hide-and-seek, blind man's buff, and let us have a happy, though a noisy family? It is often difficult to get them

engaged, but by kindness and perseverance, and the keepers participating in the sports and leading them on, these plays may be gradually, though slowly introduced.

A never failing source of amusement to a female, is a flower garden, green-house, shrubbery, &c., and we are fortunately so situated, that with but little expense we could have one of the finest in the place. The whole north wall, with merely the expense of the glass, could be converted into a Conservatory, and from the known liberality of our citizens, in six months every rare and beautiful flower of Columbia would be seen blooming within our walls. Get a gardener, so as to give the impetus; he will in some measure answer as a keeper; and many a happy hour would be spent, especially among the females, in cultivating and watching over their flowers. Out-door amusements are of priceless value to all persons; but exercise of the mind must be combined with it, and the attention bestowed on a favorite flower would awake the intellect and excite the brain to a healthful action. Many of our females are fond of flowers, will pick up the wild plants of our woods, bring them home, and tend them with the utmost care. A green-house would be a source of recreation; fill up many of their idle moments, calm their minds, and lead them to thought and reflection; and by so doing, lay the foundation for the restoration of their minds.—To those who do not appreciate the pleasures of a flower garden, might be appropriated other amusements: such as the swing, joggling-boards, see-saws, and skipping-ropes, which might be fixed in different parts of the yard. The ordinary swing is an unsocial amusement, and moreover, I do not like the temptation the rope offers to the suicidal; but they can be so constructed as to allow from two to four or more to amuse themselves at once, and they would be cheered and enlivened by seeing each other gratified.

They now walk every morning or evening out of doors; but walking without an object in view is a dull, spiritless business. I should like to have from ten to twenty acres of the field converted into ornamental grounds, and bordered with shrubbery. A succession of alleys might be made in that space, and walks and amusements furnished, calculated to arrest the attention of them all. Black berries, raspberries, strawberries, might be planted in the beds, and all sorts of flowers, as borderings, to suit the taste of every one. The fruits would furnish delightful occupation for morning and evening in gathering them, and the luxury of the table greatly increased by these delightful and refreshing articles. But, gentlemen, to accomplish this you must furnish, as I before remarked, a gardener—not a mere worker with the spade, but you must have a head—we must have one who is thoroughly acquainted with his business; who

can work to advantage ; take the proper time for doing what is wanted, and have a succession of crops of what is required. One of such qualifications will be able to manage the patients, and his good sense will teach him not to wound their feelings, if they should do wrong ; but will induce him to lead them from what is improper, and gradually get them around him and engage them in a variety of employments ; stimulating their feelings of self-importance by praises and urging them into action by the rewards of fruit and flowers, and gradually get them into full employment, when they would otherwise spurn at work.

The human mind is a strange instrument, (if I may so call it) and can be played upon to any extent by those who will watch its workings closely, and find out its master spring. Each and every one has some ruling passion, some point on which it turns, and on which a skillful player can act—this is equally true among the insane ; there are few who are so lost, that they cannot be acted on. I never shall forget the effect I once witnessed on one of the most stolid and broken hearted women I ever saw, by the endearments of her child. So utterly crushed was this poor lady, and so destroyed her mind, that, though she had been one of the most kind and affectionate of mothers, she did not then recognise her own offspring. Three years had elapsed since she had seen her children, and at that time her sister brought them on a visit to her, but she noticed them not. I took the youngest one, she who was the infant, when derangement deprived her of a mother's pleasures. I put her in her mother's lap ; she did not seem to feel that she was there. I made the child take her around the neck and clasp her with her little arms, and move her tiny hands over her face and bosom ; the arms of the mother gradually closed about the child, from the awakening of natural instinct ; they tightened and a warm and close embrace followed ; she held the infant there, shed tears and was again a mother. Her intellect daily improved ; she went home with her sister ; but the brain had sustained too great a shock, and when the novelty had worn off, it ceased to arouse her, and in a few months she was in her old state, and sunk from exhaustion of nervous power. But had that lady, in the long years of misery and desertion, (from the despicable character of a debauched husband) enjoyed the pleasures of the kindly affections, had she been placed in an Asylum at the commencement, instead of the conclusion of her disease, her mind would have been restored, and she would again have been, what her beautiful person and accomplished mind gave promise of, a most happy and fascinating companion. A similar effect, though not in so great a degree, I have witnessed in others, and we have one young lady now in the house, the commencement of whose improvement originated in the caresses of a child ; though she would not speak

or look at any one, yet she was not insensible to the winning movements of innocence, and when the child bent his face to hers, and kissed her, she noticed it, and took it—she has been improving, I think, ever since.

But, gentlemen, to effect our most desirable objects, you must re-organize your government of keepers—you must increase their number—make them not only the guardians of the insane, but the companions and playmates, if needs be, of a second childhood; let them play with their wards, and if they will not enter into the games, go on themselves, evince a pleasure in the employment, and in so doing they will gradually entice them to enter into the sports. Do not order a maniac to play—do not force your patient to enjoyment, for in so doing you destroy the sense of free will, and forced pleasure becomes a pain, and often an intolerable grievance; you must lead them by example, and stimulate them by apparent enjoyment, otherwise they will pass the nine-pins, balls, &c. without giving them a moment's thought. In carrying out a course of moral treatment for the patients, it is all important that the keepers should be capable of understanding what the physician wishes to effect, and not only that, but be sufficiently interested in the patient, to carry it fully out. He is the one whose opportunities, more than any other officer of the institution, enable him to gain their friendship and affection, and I find, in our keeper Levy, that they all yield to him without difficulty, and all look up to him as a friend and protector—of him none complain—and all are pleased when he is about. This is the effect of a certain kindness of manner, and of heart, for which they all love him. With the opportunities the keepers have, they can very soon gain the affections of most of the insane; and though he is the person through whom all the restraint is effected, yet is he also ever by their side to administer to all their little wants, the one thro' whom they receive their comforts, who consoles them in their troubles, joins them in their sports, and could lead them from a sorrowful subject to one calculated to relieve their distress. It is deeply to be regretted that we have but little choice in our keepers, and that in the present state of society there is but little hope of doing better; the utmost we can expect from them is fidelity in what they consider the discharge of their duty. But more must be done—The patients must have amusement and exercise during the day, and instead of going to bed at night as they now do, a room ought to be fitted up and they should be enticed to spend the evenings together; drafts, backgammon, cards, books, prints, &c., should be furnished, and the keepers be required to attend strictly to encourage them in their amusements. Some of our patients are very willing to work and will do so steadily, others for a short time, and some not at all. Some are fond of agricultural pursuits, and will engage in attending to

the crop; others will saw wood, grind corn, and others will wheel the wood into different parts of the house; with some assisting in the kitchen forms their principal pleasure. Many can be bribed with tobacco, a biscuit, or glass of toddy, but there are others who cannot be induced to work by any incentive. I will not enter upon the propriety of adopting compulsory labor for them; at present it would be useless. You can, by reference to my report of '44, see my reasons for believing that it ought to be done, and the advantages with which it would be attended. I still entertain the views I then did, and feel certain that I could convince your committee of its practicability—and if so, are we not bound to adopt it? Assuming that it is proper to use compulsory labor, the question is, how can it be effected? I will endeavor to carry into operation some machinery, which, while it gave full exercise, would have the appearance of a mere frolic, and would rouse up their spirits. The machine I proposed to you some time ago, I have reflected on fully, and am satisfied it would answer our purposes. I am, moreover, impressed with the belief that if one was erected, that our non-workers could be urged into action by the spirit of fun or frolic. Many are willing to play off a practical joke, and take great pleasure in running a saw upon their companions. I am sure there would be no difficulty in inducing them to enter into what they would call sport. The action would commence in play, but they would be compelled to go on with it, if the excitement of their feelings would not induce them to continue, and the workers would become partakers of the pleasures of the ride, and exhilarating effects of rapid movement in the open air; but, should they determine not to move, and positively refuse to work, still the very effort which they make to sustain their determination, calls the brain into action, and produces a new train of thoughts and feelings; and if they decline motion, they must hold by their hands, and use much muscular exertion, and my object will be in some measure accomplished in spite of themselves. So that whether they act in accordance to my wishes or their own will, the much desired objects will be effected. The mode proposed would be wheels connected together by an endless band, and so arranged as to act on a large horizontal wheel, on which seats could be placed similar to the flying horse. This would be exercise and amusement to all parties, and might be made to answer the purpose of a rotary chair; and by the different positions to and from the center, excite or diminish the activity of the brain; it can be made to answer the purpose of a circular swing, and by the centrifugal force, rouse the brain to any extent, and with the centripetal motion depress it. The force required to effect this, I will make by an endless band, on which one or more patients shall walk, and arrange it so that no possible injury can

occur; and they shall not be exercised beyond their powers, but sufficiently to make them more healthy, and cheer their minds by seeing the effect of their apparent mischief on those revolving about them. I cannot but believe that an instrument of this kind will be beneficial to all parties, and may, with a little ingenuity, be adapted to many useful purposes. It might be tried in one of the court yards, and if successful, another could be constructed.

By bringing our patients together of an evening, I think much good might be effected, and the keepers would be present to prevent any risk from anger, or any impropriety of conduct. The experiment might be made as to the effect of bringing the two sexes together in the drawing room. I should judge well of its sanative effect, but it would not answer for all—a selection would have to be made, and the trial attempted on a small scale. The female side of the house has rooms adapted for their meeting together, in which they might be engaged in conversation, cards, ornamental work, or any thing that would amuse the mind and dispel the tedium of life. Their habits have been too sedentary, and their life too monotonous; you must vary the pleasures furnished them—skipping ropes, &c., may be given to them, under the care of the keepers. Music, singing, dancing, all and every means should be put in requisition to arrest their attention.

I would call your attention to the situation of the basement rooms: the windows are too small, they ought to be cut down to the floor and converted into doors; you might have them as small work-rooms for shoe-making, tailoring, &c. I do not know whether your grounds would be sufficient to allow you to establish carpenter or turning shops, but they might be tried; they have been erected in the northern institutions, and may answer here.

I am still gratified with the effect of religious exercises, and though we have a variety of different sects, some of whom it is difficult to get to hear a sermon, yet there are no unpleasant feelings among them. The chaplain takes great pains in gaining their confidence and friendship, and elicits from them very much of their respect. I am pleased to find him disposed to continue his routine of duty, and I trust that he will remain in his present situation.

Since your last report, we have received into the house 33 patients, and at that time there were in the institution 70. 22 have been dismissed as cured, 6 have died, 1 eloped, and there are now in the house 74.

It is highly gratifying to state, that we have had but little sickness among our patients this year, and that the deaths were all of chronic disease, contracted before they came here, and of a character that human aid avails not to cure. Out of the 6 who have died, 4 were from the effects of apoplexy and

epilepsy, 1 from exhaustion from repeated attacks of pneumonia, and the other never was well from the time she entered the house until her death.

Received from Nov. 5th, 1846, to Nov. 5th, 1847, - - - 33

In the Asylum at that time, - - - - - 70

103

Cured and removed, - - - - - 22

Died, - - - - - 6

Eloped, - - - - - 1

29

Leaving now in the Asylum, - - - - - 74

Very respectfully submitted,

DANIEL H. TREZEVANT.

NOVEMBER 5th, 1847.

LUNATIC ASYLUM OF S. C., }
November 5th, 1847. }

To the Board of Regents,

GENTLEMEN :

The fiscal year for this institution closing on this day, I respectfully submit to your Board my eleventh annual reports, relative to the duties of Superintendent and Secretary and Treasurer.

In reviewing the past year, we are constrained to acknowledge it as one of the most successful and agreeable yet enjoyed by the officers of the institution and those who have been placed under their care. We have received a greater number of patients than during any former year, and a much larger proportion from the higher walks of life, which we regard as an evidence of increased confidence in our management. A merciful Providence has smiled upon our efforts, and with humble gratitude we acknowledge our success. Seventeen of the number who came to us, have been restored to society and to usefulness, their families and friends realizing that enjoyment in their society which but a short time before they could not reasonably have anticipated; five others have been removed in a state of improvement. These cases which terminated fatally

were hopelessly insane, and had for many years lingered out a miserable existence; to such, death was a merciful visitation. We have to report one case of elopement, and the first for many years; the individual was a pauper from Union District; he had for several years enjoyed the privilege of going in and out at pleasure; he became impressed with the belief that he was to be hung on a certain day, and on the morning of that day he seemed to think it prudent to leave us unceremoniously, and succeeded in reaching his former home. Your superintendent being well aware of the importance, for his own comfort as well as success, that he should enjoy the confidence and friendship of every inmate of the house, endeavors to extend to each patient as courteous a manner as practicable, and requires each attendant to exercise at all times a mild and kind treatment towards their respective charges. It is from this treatment, combined with firmness and forbearance, that we are to look for the greatest success, as all modern experience has fully demonstrated. A kind word, followed by the warm bath, will generally effect more in subduing the furious maniae than either solitary confinement or any restraining apparatus which has been invented. During the past twelve months we have had one hundred and three patients under treatment; in but two or three instances have we resorted to any kind of restraining apparatus, and then using a very light and simple article for a short time.

A very large proportion of the patients now in the house are incurable. By reference to a particular account of our inmates, you will find nearly all were old cases when admitted—the time for curing them had passed. Many of them have been with us a long time, and many will remain in all probability during their lives. As all that I could say in confirmation of the great importance of sending the insane to an asylum during the early stages of their affliction, is embraced in Dr. Trezevant's report, I leave this part of the subject, with the full conviction that the time is not far distant when its importance will be evident to all, and all who may have friends thus afflicted, will promptly avail themselves of the advantages offered for their restoration. As just mentioned, we have a large proportion of our patients whom we cannot cure; we have nevertheless done much for their personal comfort, in calming the violence of their tempers, and obliging the once unmanageable and wretched to go decently clad, and inducing them to enter into some employment, which is invariably attended with the happiest effects.

As very much depends on the general government and proper employment of the insane, it may not be amiss that I should state briefly the regular routine of duty pursued at our asylum. At 5 o'clock in summer, and 6 in winter,

the superintendent rings his bell, he then goes down and gives out breakfast; at the same time the attendants open the doors throughout the building and see that their respective charges wash and comb before going to breakfast.—The superintendent, as he visits the different breakfast tables, meets with all the patients and seldom has occasion to call the attention of the keepers to one with hair uncombed or face not washed. Immediately after breakfast, one of the male attendants and three of the patients sweep every part of the building occupied by the males. Another, with two or more patients perform a similar duty in the yard—a third takes charge of all who may be willing to work in the field, generally six or eight, and the gardener with two patients—all go to work cheerfully, and continue from two to three hours, morning and afternoon, according to circumstances. There are generally twenty or more in the house and yard unoccupied; four of that number might be induced to work if we had proper work-shops; five or six engage at different amusements in the house and yard, as whist, drafts, backgammon, long bullets, &c.; the others are unwilling to do more than eat, drink and sleep. About the same proportion of the females are regularly employed in the ordinary routine of house-work such as sewing, knitting, spinning, &c. The only amusement which the females at present engage in, is the common swing, and walking out in companies of ten or twelve together, accompanied by one or two of the attendants, sometimes extending their walks two miles or more into the country, a privilege enjoyed in a high degree during the fruit seasons. We have sometimes patients who amuse themselves at graces, battle-door, &c., but none such now in the house. At one time, an afternoon in each week was appropriated to dancing, which was found profitable and agreeable; an exercise highly recommended by the best authority as a remedial agent in some of the diseases to which insanity is sometimes attributed. But our *chief dancers soon got well* and left us. At this time we have not one calculated to direct or lead in this innocent and useful exercise; neither have we a proper musician.

On the subject of amusements to be afforded our patients beyond those alluded to, there is much difficulty in consequence of the diversity of taste among so small a number. It is a striking fact, that the amusements suitable to children, continue pleasant at all ages to such as lost their reason in early life; but when insanity commenced in riper years, something more appropriate to that period of life is required.

Much good would doubtless result from a regular course of lectures delivered to our patients, say once or twice a month, on such subjects as could be ac-

accompanied by demonstrations or experiments—as chemistry, astronomy, natural history, &c.

Our religious exercises have been regularly continued—Rev. E. B. Hort continuing faithfully to discharge the duties of chaplain.

It would be doing injustice to the several attendants and others employed in the institution, were I to close my report without bearing testimony to the faithful manner in which their responsible and arduous duties have been performed.

Permit me, in conclusion, to refer you to the following account of patients received and discharged, also to the annexed financial report :

At the commencement of the year there were 70 patients in the house.

Received during the year,	-	-	-	33
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Making the whole number under treatment,	103
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Discharged cured,	-	-	17
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Removed under improvement,	-	5
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Eloped,	-	-	-	-	1
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Died,	-	-	-	-	-	6 making	29
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Now in the Asylum, seventy-four,	74
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Of whom 40 are males, 34 females ; 46 paupers and 28 pay patients.

Very respectfully, your ob't. serv't.,

J. W. PARKER, *Superintendent,*
and Resident Physician.

THE RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM OF S. C., FROM 5TH NOV., 1846, TO THE SAME PERIOD, 1847, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1846									
Nov.	5	To amount in Bank,	-	-	-	1,194	25		
1847									
"	"	" " received to date	-	-	-	13,144	81	14,339	06
1846									
		DISBURSED.							
Nov.	7	By am't p'd for supplies and salaries	-			697	63		
"	21	" " " Mrs Gibinrath, salary	-			150	00		
Dec.	17	" " " contract, supplies, &c.	-			601	73		
"	21	" " " Mr. Brown, (refunded)				69	40		
"	"	" " " Orrin Taylor,	-			5	60		
1847									
Jan'y.	7	" " " Dr. Trezevant. salary	-			610	00		
"	"	" " " J. W. Parker,	-			375	00		
"	11	" " " supplies and salaries,	-			991	95		
"	"	" " " refunded G. S. Oglesby,	-			77	08		
"	26	" " p'd Mr. Hort, salary,	-			150	00		
"	"	" " " E. L. Adams for Bacon	-			200	00		
Feb.	13	" " " supplies and salaries,	-			1,335	14		
Mar.	15	" " " " " " " " " "	-			885	00		
April	7	" " " " " " " " " "	-			902	46		
"	28	" " " Miss Barker, salary,	-			200	00		
May	4	" " " supplies, &c.,	-			568	43		
June	9	" " " " and salaries	-			710	44		
July	5	" " " " " " " " " "	-			814	95		
"	28	" " " " " " " " " "	-			250	00		
Aug.	16	" " " supplies, &c.,	-			733	45		
Sept.	14	" " " " " " " " " "	-			680	70		
Oct.	5	" " " " " " " " " "	-			719	06	11,728	02
Nov.	5	" Amount on hands,	-	-	-			\$2,611	04

J. W. PARKER, *Sec'y & Treas.*

Lunatic Asylum.

We have examined the above accounts and find them correct.

JOSIAH E SMITH, }
R. H. GOODWYN. } *Committee.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, December 16, 1847.

The Committee on the Lunatic Asylum to whom was referred the Report of the Regents of that Institution for the year 1847, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to Report :

That in the opinion of the Committee the Institution is now in a better condition both in respect of its pecuniary, moral and physical circumstances, than it has been since its foundation.

There is now a surplus of revenue in its Treasury after payment of all demands against it of \$2,611 04-100 an amount greater than the surplus of last year by \$1,416 79-100. This balance has been secured by a vigilant attention on the part of the Superintendent to the collection of the outstanding debts and by a prudent economy in the disbursements. These outstanding debts are still large, amounting now to \$3,538 66-100, every dollar of which this Committee are authorized to say is available.

The moral condition of the unfortunate inmates of the Asylum seems to be as wholesome as could be looked for amongst a portion of the human race whose ordinary reason and powers of intellect have been withdrawn from them by the inscrutable will of God. Very generally, they seem to be impressed with the solemnities of Religious exercises, receive religious and moral teachings with patient interest, are mild in their tempers, quiet in their passions, their deportment towards visitors exceedingly courteous and their intercourse with their excellent superintendant and his efficient subordinates kindly and confiding to the last degree.

The outward and physical circumstances of the lunatics are comfortable and happy to an extent most creditable to the benevolence and vigilance of the Superintendant, and under his care the Committee are glad to be able to report very great improvement in the bodily appearance of some of the inmates.—Cleanliness so essential to the health and comfort of those people is everywhere observable and the freedom of the establishment in all its apartments from all noisome smells afford most satisfactory proof that this most important matter is never for a moment neglected.

The Committee have perused with as much attention and satisfaction the suggestions of the Regents, and the able and humane Physician relative to im-

provement in the management of the Institution. Their experience enables them to speak with authority, and their suggestions are eminently worthy the attention and approval of the Legislature. The Committee however, are of opinion that the Regents have already ample powers to adopt any measures of reform and improvement connected with the Institution and the great purposes of philanthropy which it is intended to promote, which their wisdom and practical knowledge may approve, and that they have the full control of the funds of the Institution in the discharge of their responsible and benevolent trust. They therefore think it unnecessary to recommend any legislation—satisfied that the expression of the approval by this Legislature of the manner in which the Asylum has been conducted of the justness of the views which the Regents and their Physician, have set forth is all which it need do.

The Committee, at the last sitting of this General Assembly, in the performance of their duty, ascertained that the out-standing debts due the Institution were large—larger than they should be—a great portion of which they were informed was collectable. They therefore then recommended that the Superintendent be instructed to urge the collection of these debts with reasonable diligence. As has been stated, this has been done, and the amount now due is consequently reduced much below the sum out-standing at the close of the last year. They think it proper, however, to repeat the injunction of the last Session, in regard to the further and final settlement of these old claims.

The Committee are highly gratified in being able to inform the Legislature that during the present year, the health of the inmates of the Asylum has been uncommonly good, and that very few deaths, (only six) have occurred. At the commencement of the present year, there were seventy patients under its care; thirty-three were received in all the year, making an aggregate of one hundred and three. Of these, seventeen have been cured and discharged; five have been removed under improvement; one has escaped, and, as above stated, six have died, thus leaving the number of insane now enjoying the benefits of the Institution, seventy-four. Of this number, forty are males and thirty-four are females, of whom forty-six are paupers and twenty-eight are paying patients.

The Committee conclude this Report by submitting for the adoption of the Legislature the following Resolution:

Resolved, That it is most gratifying to the Legislature to receive information of the able and faithful management of the Lunatic Asylum, and of the constant and vigilant supervision of the enlightened Board of Regents, to whose care its management and that of its unfortunate inmates have been confided..

Resolved, That the Board of Regents have the full confidence of this Legislature, and that they have power to devote the resources of the institution to its internal improvement, in any manner their wisdom and experience may sanction. All which is respectfully submitted.

Resolved, That the House do agree to the Report. *Ordered*, That it be sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By order,

T. W. GLOVER, C. H. R.

In the Senate, Dec. 17, 1847.

Resolved, That the Senate do concur in the Report. *Ordered*, That it be sent to the House for concurrence.

By order,

W. E. MARTIN, C. S.

